TO AMEND THE NATIONAL DEFENSE ACT

January 19, 1925.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. McKenzie, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 11445]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 11445) to amend the national defense act, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass, with the following amendment:

Line 5, change the colon to a period and strike out all after the

word "general" down to and including line 10.

When the reorganization of the Army was undertaken following the World War, Congress, after careful consideration, determined there should be created a Finance Department to have charge of all financial work in the War Department. A Chemical Warfare Service was also established as an independent bureau. Although the chiefs of the other bureaus were given rank of major general, the chiefs of the newly established Bureaus of Finance and Chemical Warfare were designated as brigadier generals.

Time and experience have demonstrated clearly the value of these two branches of the service, and your committee feel it is just and proper and in the best interest of the Military Establishment that the chiefs of these two bureaus be placed on an equality of rank

with the chiefs of the other bureaus.

The Secretary of War stated to your committee that the Finance Bureau in particular has accomplished great results, and it is to this bureau that much of the credit for the successful financial system in

use at the Budget Bureau is due.

The Secretary of War stated to your committee that he was in favor of the proposed legislation and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget advises that it is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

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